

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****Patent and Trademark Office**

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AS

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/100,934 06/22/98 STOUT

W 9278

EXAMINER

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LM12/0313

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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2771

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/100,934	Applicant(s) Stout
	Examiner Thuy Perdo	Group Art Unit 2771

Responsive to communication(s) filed on Feb 23, 2000

This action is **FINAL**.

Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.

Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is approved disapproved.

The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

All Some* None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

received.

received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.

received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). 02, 05

Interview Summary, PTO-413

Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

1. Claims 1-4 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. § 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 37 1© of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

3. Claims 1 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by **Adamchick** patent no. 5,761,668.

4. As to claim 1, Adamchick teaches the invention substantially as claimed, comprising:
a computer readable memory storage medium, said medium storing a plurality of date files, each said date file having 6 integers [ab; six numeric characters, 221-226 of fig. 2; col. 4, lines 54-63] and comprising:

a 4 digit decimal year represented in a first three integer form [221, 222, and 223 of fig. 2], the last two of said first three said integers representing the last two digits of the 4 digit decimal year [222 and 223 of fig. 2], the first of said first three said integers representing a designated century [C 221 of fig. 2]; and

a 3 digit decimal day represented in a second three integer form, said second three integers representing a day of a year [224, 225, and 226 of fig. 2]; whereupon addition to or subtraction of

at least two of said plurality of date files, the respective sums and differences can be computed and maintained after year 1999 [Millennium Date, col. 4, lines 64 to col. 5, lines 18]; and

a central processing unit for carrying out said addition and said subtraction operations [inherent in the computer system for carrying out the operation in col. 6, lines 4-60].

5. As to claim 3, it is similar to claim 1; therefore, it is rejected under the same rationale.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over **Adamchick** patent no. 5,761,668.

8. As to claim 2, Adamchick teaches the invention substantially as claimed, with the exception of teaching that the integer 1 represents the 19th Century, the integer 2 represents the 20th Century, the integer 3 represents the 21st Century, the integer 4 represents the 22st Century, the integer 5 represents the 23st Century, the integer 6 represents the 24st Century, the integer 7 represents the 25st Century, the integer 8 represents the 26st Century, and the integer 9 represents the 27st Century.

However, since Adamchick teaches that said first of said first three said integers representing a designated century are selected from the group ranging from 0 through 9, and C=0 for 19th century, C=1 for 20th century, C=2 for 21th century, and so forth [col. 5, lines 57 to col. 6, lines 3], it can be understood that selecting from the group ranging from 0 through 9 or from 1 through 9 for representing a century is only a matter of a design choice. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Data Processing art at the time of the invention to apply this feature in the system in order to indicate the century.

9. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over **Adamchick** patent no. 5,761,668, in view of **Dickens** patent no. 5,806,063.

10. As to claim 4, Adamchick teaches the invention substantially as claimed, with the exception of adding said integers of one of said plurality of files to another of said plurality of files to generate a sum, and optionally; whenever necessary, adding 365 to said sum. Dickens explicitly teaches adding said integers of one of said plurality of files to another of said plurality of files to generate a sum [col. 3, lines 13-37; col. 3, lines 24-37];

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Data Processing art at the time of the invention to combine teachings of Adamchick and Dickens because Dickens' teachings would enhance Mao's teaching by applying the feature in the system in order to detail the step by step means of converting a database program and associated input data in a truncated format

11. Further references of interest are cited on Form PTO-892 which is an attachment to this office action.

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thuy Pardo, whose telephone number is (703) 305-1091. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Thursday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas G. Black, can be reached at (703) 305-9707. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 308-5403.

Any inquiry of a general nature of relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-9600.

13. **Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 308-9051, (for formal communications intended for entry)

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Or:

(703) 308-5359, (for informal or draft communications, please label
"PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA.,
Sixth Floor (Receptionist).


Thuy Pardo
March 09, 2000


WAYNE AMSBURY
PRIMARY PATENT EXAMINER